

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 ACDA-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05

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P 191518Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7967

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

USMISSION USUN

USERDA HQ WASHDC

USERDQ HQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 6901

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA SF AORG

SUBJ: FUTURE OF SA IN IAEA

REF: A. STATE 202260, B. IAEA VIENNA 6789

C. STATE 203881

1. IN CALL ON VON SCHIRNDING, SOUTH AFRICAN

RESREP TO IAEA, AUGUST 18, I CARRIED

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OUT INSTRUCTIONS PARA 4 REFTEL (A).

2. BASED ON THE REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED FROM ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL BITTENCOURT OF THE VISIT OF NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN (CHAIRMAN OF UN ANTI-APARTHEID COMMITTEE) VON SCHIRNDING SAID HARRIMAN SEEMED BENT OF EXPULSION OF SA FROM IAEA. SHOULD AFRICANS PURSUE SUCH A COURSE, VON SCHIRNDING SAID SAG TACTIC WOULD BE TO BANK ON THE FACT THAT IAEA STATUTE MAKES NO PROVISION FOR EXPULSION AS SUCH. AS FOR SUSPENSION, THIS CAN ONLY OCCUR ON A RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING, WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO BE AN OBSTACLE FOR AFRICANS TO ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVE. IF INDEED AFRICANS PRESS TO EXPEL, SAG REP WILL CALL ON PRESIDENT TO RULE THAT SUCH REQUEST IS OUT OF ORDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH TERMS OF THE STATUTE.

3. MORE LIKELY TACTIC IN VON SCHIRNDING'S VIEW WOULD BE ATTEMPT TO HAVE SAG DEL CREDENTIALS REJECTED IN GENERAL CONFERENCE ON THE PATTERN USED IN THE UN. DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT SEEMED INCONGRUOUS THAT CREDENTIALS, WHICH HAD BEEN ACCEPTED SINCE 1957 WOULD NOW BE REJECTED, VON SCHIRNDING RECOGNIZED THERE WOULD PROBABLY BE MAJORITY TO SUPPORT SUCH A PROPOSAL. TACTICALLY, HOWEVER, HE DID NOT CONSIDER SITUATION TOO BLEAK, SINCE THE GENERAL COMMITTEE WAS NOT SCHEDULED TO REPORT ON CREDENTIALS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 23. VON SCHIRNDING VIEWED A REJECTION OF CREDENTIALS AFTER THE CONFERENCE AS MORE OF A SLAP IN THE FACE THAN ANYTHING ELSE. HE RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE AFRICANS WOULD PRESS TO HAVE THE CREDENTIALS EXAMINED EARLIER.

4. VON SCHIRNDING FELT WHETHER SA REP SHOULD SPEAK AT GENERAL CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO BE PLAYED BY EAR. HE COULD ENVISAGE CERTAIN CIRCUM-CONFIDENTIAL

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STANCES UNDER WHICH HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THEY NOT SPEAK AT ALL IN ORDER TO AVOID PROVOKING SA ISSUE.

5. QUESTION OF CREDENTIALS COULD, AS NOTED REF (B), ALSO BE RAISED AT POST-CONFERENCE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING. AT FIRST BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING FOLLOWING CONFERENCE, PRACTICE IS

FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL TO REPORT ON CREDENTIALS OF GOVERNORS.

6. IN RESPONSE TO SUGGESTION THAT THE U.S. BELIEVED SAG POSITION WOULD BE STRENGTHENED WERE IT TO TAKE STEPS TOWARD RATIFYING NPT BEFORE SEPTEMBER MEETINGS, VON SCHIRNDING STATED HE PERSONALLY SHARED THAT VIEW BUT COULD NOT HOLD OUT ANY HOPE OF SAG ACTION IN THIS REGARD IN NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID SAG WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY INTERNALLY IN SELLING THE NPT AT THIS TIME. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD NOT AFFECT APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS TO NEW SA ENRICHMENT PLANT WHICH GOVERNMENT HAD PUBLICLY COMMITTED ITSELF TO PLACE UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS.

7. IN FURTHER DISCUSSION, VON SCHIRNDING SEEMED ATTRACTED TO POSSIBILITY OF UTILIZING BRITISH PROPOSED FULL FUEL CYCLE SAFEGUARDS FORMULA WHICH IN HIS VIEW WOULD NOT HAVE POLITICAL STIGMA OF NPT. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT TECHNICALLY THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH SA JOINING NPT AND SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN CONSISTENTLY URGING HIS GOVERNMENT TO DO SO FOR SOME YEARS. PROBLEM WAS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL. HE URGED, HOWEVER, THAT IN CONTACTS WITH DR. ROUX U.S. REPS SUGGEST THAT SA MIGHT AVAIL ITSELF OF NEW FULL FUEL CYCLE SAFEGUARDS FORMULA DEVELOPED AT BRITISH REQUEST. HE HOPED THAT PARTICULARLY DR. SEAMANS COULD MAKE THIS POINT TO ROUX WHEN VISITING SA FOLLOWING IAEA MEETINGS.

8. VON SCHIRNDING SEEMED PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AT SOME REPORTS HE HAD HEARD FROM INDIAN AMBASSADOR, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH WE ALSO PICKED UP DURING CALL ON HIM AUGUST 17, THAT AFRICANS WOULD ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT FRG-IAEA-SAG TRILATERAL WHEN IT COMES UP FOR APPROVAL BEFORE BOARD. HE SAID U.S. SUPPORT OF TRILATERAL AGREEMENT WOULD BE VITAL AND URGED PARTICULARLY THAT WE WEIGH IN WITH SOVIETS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR SUPPORT, THOUGH RECOGNIZING IT MAY WELL BE NECESSARY FOR THEM TO INSERT RESERVATION THAT APPROVAL OF TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WOULD NOT REFLECT APPROVAL OF UNDERLYING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION INVOLVED. WE PLAN RAISE WITH SOVIETS IMPORTANCE THEIR SUPPORT OF (OR AT LEAST NON-OBJECTION TO) TRILATERAL AGREEMENT AT TIME WE ARE AUTHORIZED APPROACH THEM FOR SUPPORT REGARDING U.S. VOLUNTARY OFFER. STONE

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